

"Above all, in the face of many heretical opinions that are now spreading in the community with respect to marriage, the reason must be made plain why the permanence of this relation is so essential to individual and public welfare. There is a disposition at the present time due largely to the ever-increasing immorality and violence, to rebel against mere authority in every sphere, in the sphere of conduct as well as of thought. The most ancient traditions, the most sacred institutions, are summoned before the bar of reason to give an account of themselves and to justify their claims. Of this tendency among civilized nations we must take note, and the reasons must be adduced for the permanency of the marriage relation. Those who offer reasons for experimental marriage and the like, in short, for relaxing the sacredness of marriage, must take note of us believe—must be met with stronger and better reasons. For partners themselves of the marriage contract, the expectation of permanency in the relation is indispensable because it is the permanent character that makes the marriage relation sacred and human, and distinguishes it from the sexual commerce of animals. For the children that come from the conjugal relation, the permanency of marriage is indispensable because the parents are bound necessary to them, because the parents in the best possible manner mentally